

**DEVICE FOR CONTACTING AND/OR MODIFYING A SURFACE HAVING A
CANTILEVER AND A METHOD FOR PRODUCTION OF SAID CANTILEVER**

ABSTRACT

A device for contacting and/or modifying a surface having a cantilever connected to an almost plane carrier element staying apart from said surface, said cantilever having a tip at its loose end being in close contact to said surface. It is proposed that the cantilever stand out of the plane of said carrier element. Further, a method for producing the cantilever having a tip at its loose end. The device is suitable for thermomechanical writing and thermal readout of binary information, lithographic and imaging techniques, and for surface modification.